

WORKPLACE CONNECTION

" ENRICHING LIVES "

January / February 2008

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DASH/Commuter Express No Longer Take MTA Passes

Attention commuters who use Metropolitan Transportation Authority or Metro passes to pay LADOT fares!

Effective January 1, 2008 DASH and Commuter Express will no longer accept Metro passes or Tap cards as payment.

Passengers who wish to utilize these transportation options with a pass card still have options for getting from here to there.

The four (4) major options are:

- LADOT passes and tickets (for riders who ONLY ride the DASH or Commuter Express)
- EZ transit pass for those who also use other bus services such as Metro, Foothill, Santa Monica, etc.
- Metrolink tickets/passes
- Access Services ID card

County employees may purchase LADOT passes from the first floor counter of the Treasurer-Tax Collector's office at the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration in downtown Los Angeles.

For more information, call LADOT Transit Store at (213, 310, 323, 818) 808-2273, or visit www.ladottransit.com.



Supervisor Gloria Molina celebrates at the ribbon cutting ceremony for the "first" green home in East Los Angeles, which is owned by Margarita Garcia. A \$20,000 green grant was used to dramatically improve the home's energy efficiency by installing a photovoltaic system, decreasing carbon emissions.

Supervisor Molina Celebrates First "Green Home"

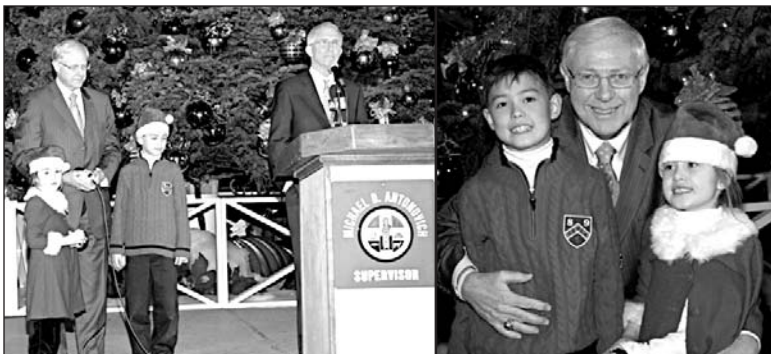
Supervisor Gloria Molina was the special guest recently for an official ribbon cutting heralding the "first" green home in East Los Angeles.

Homeowner Margarita Garcia received \$20,000 from the Green Grant program, a \$600,000 federal initiative. The program is designed to reduce energy costs for low-income homeowners while also decreasing carbon emissions, which contribute to air pollution in Southern California.

"This fantastic program makes greening your home affordable," said Supervisor Molina. "Many homeowners are quite willing to install photovoltaic units but the cost is simply prohibitive. Through this program, we hope to eliminate that financial impediment and convince more homeowners to 'go green'."

Green Grant recipients are selected on a first come, first served basis. If selected, homeowners may receive up

See **Green Home** continued on page 2



Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony

At left, Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich attends the County's annual Christmas Tree lighting with son, Michael, and daughter, Mary Christine. The ceremony was held on the plaza of the Music Center in downtown Los Angeles. Fritz Coleman, NBC4-TV weatherman, far left, entertains the audience while serving as master of ceremonies for the tree lighting.

State Adopts Clean Air Plan for Southland

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) recently adopted an Air Quality Management Plan, which outlines a strategy to meet federal health-based standards for fine particulates by 2015 and eight-hour ozone by 2024.

Submitted by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD), the plan also includes installation of pollution control devices on Metrolink commuter trains and asking the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to reduce locomotive emissions or provide funding to achieve equivalent reductions.

"We commend the CARB for addressing the Southland's severe air pollution problem," said William A. Burke, Ed.D, chairman, SCAQMD. "Now that we have consensus on what needs to be done, we need to put the plan into action."

The Air Quality Management Plan now must be submitted to the EPA for review and approval.



Green Home *continued from page 1*

to \$20,000 to install a 3kW photovoltaic system in their residence. Usually such units cost \$26,000 each.

While the units generate electricity, if no electricity is used it flows back into the grid causing the energy meter to go in reverse. Typically, homeowners may



Pastor Herrera, third from left, director of Consumer Affairs, is joined by staff members and volunteers, who raised \$1,700 for AIDS Walk Los Angeles last year. Preparing to walk are, from left, Ed Costanzo, volunteer, Rebecca Escobar, Marissa Lao, Yarelis Talavera, Armando Nogal, DCA AIDS Walk coordinator, Kermit Hartley, volunteer, and Ezequiel Aguilar.

County Employees Donate \$29,000+ to AIDS Walk

It's official! County employees, led by the Child Support Services Department, donated \$29,768.10 to AIDS Walk Los Angeles last year.

"It is no surprise that County employees are generous," said CEO Bill Fujioka. "Our employees easily topped their 2006 contributions and qualified as one of AWLA's Gold Teams," he added.

"Your status as a gold team makes you eligible for an official and professional team photo at the 2008 AIDS Walk Los Angeles," said AWLA officials.

Employees and volunteers of the Consumer Affairs Department donated \$1,700 to AWLA, and a group of eight,

including Director Pastor Herrera and AIDS Walk Coordinator Armando Nogal, participated in the walk.

The County Team was ranked 14th among the fundraiser's top 25 teams, helping the non-profit organization raise a record \$3.9 million. More than 30,000 people turned out to walk, making last year the most successful ever for the annual event.

The walk-a-thon fundraiser supports a wide range of programs and services benefiting men, women and children living with HIV/AIDS in the County.

expect an energy savings ranging from 30 to 80 percent within a year. The photovoltaic unit is estimated to cut 5,549 pounds of carbon dioxide emissions in the first year.

Eligibility requirements include residence within the unincorporated areas of the County with an annual

income that does not exceed \$47,350 for a family of two and \$59,200 for a family of four.

For more information, please visit www.enterprisecommunity.org or contact Enterprise Home Ownership Partners, Inc. at (213) 833-7988.



Photo by Jim Camp

Rideshare Fair Winner

Several employees won gifts at the County's annual Civic Center Clean Air/Rideshare Fair when they correctly answered a series of Rideshare-related questions. Craig Hirakawa, assistant director, CEO-Workplace Programs and County transportation program manager, presents two pairs of L.A. Clippers basketball game tickets to Liza Javier, Office of Affirmative Action Compliance. Joining in the presentation was Mason Fong, employee transportation coordinator for the OAAC.

Did you know...?

Metro's Orange Line has 600 free parking spaces from Canoga Avenue to Vanowen Street. Go Metro across the San Fernando Valley. Visit www.Metro.net.



Law Mandates Smoke Free Cars

Smokers are no longer allowed to “fire up” in vehicles when youth under the age of 18 are present, according to newly-enacted state legislation, California Health & Safety Code 118947.

A smoker who is either riding in or driving the car can be fined up to \$100 if the car is pulled over by law enforcement for other initial violations, such as speeding. Law enforcement may not stop a vehicle for smoking violations alone.

The new law is designed to protect all minors by reducing involuntary exposure to secondhand smoke. Exposure can pose serious health risks to children, including sudden infant death syndrome, acute respiratory infections, ear problems and asthma.

Smoking just one cigarette in a car with the windows closed can create an air quality that is up to 75 times worse than the smoggiest day in Los Angeles, according to Public Health officials.

In 2006, the U.S. Surgeon General said on average children are exposed to more secondhand smoke than non-smoking adults, and the evidence suggests that vehicles can be a significant source of exposure for children.

Persons who want to quit smoking may call the California Smoker's Helpline at **1-800-NO-BUTTS (662-8887)**, or visit the County's Tobacco Control & Prevention Program website at <http://www.lapublichealth.org/tob>.



Supervisor Don Knabe, third from right, held a reception prior to a scroll presentation at the Board of Supervisors meeting for organizers and employees participating in the recent Memory Walk, sponsored by the Alzheimer's Association/California Southland. In attendance were, from left, Peter Braun, president and chief executive officer of AA/CA, Anthony Rendon, board member, Earl Greinetz, board chair, Supervisor Knabe, Doris Dana, widow of the late Supervisor Deane Dana, who suffered from Alzheimer's, and Cheryl Gurin, vice president of fund development.

Traffic Changes Continue for The Old Road

New traffic patterns on The Old Road, from Sedona Way to Live Oak Road, in Castaic will continue for at least a year due to the Hasley Canyon Road/Interstate 5 project, according to Department of Public Works officials.

The Old Road, reduced to one lane in each direction, will be shifted to the east. North and southbound traffic on The Old Road will be prevented from turning onto Sedona Way, and traffic on Sedona Way will only be able to turn right, southbound, onto The Old Road.

“A detour route for residents of the North Bluff community will be in place

and signs posted prior to traffic pattern changes,” said one DPW official.

Everyone is encouraged to avoid the intersection of The Old Road and Hasley Canyon Road whenever possible. Information on the project may be obtained by visiting www.hasleyi5.com.



Credit Union Day Held on KHHOA Mall



On a motion by Supervisor Don Knabe, the Board of Supervisors proclaimed “Credit Union Day” in November of last year in support of the fair, held on the Mall of the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration. Representatives met with County employees and discussed a wide range of financial programs and services available. Cardinal Roger Mahony made a surprise visit and commended the credit unions for their services to working people. At left, the Focus One Credit Union display, center, Cardinal Mahony shares a moment with, from left, Tom Thompson, First City Credit Union; a staff member of L.A. Financial Credit Union, Victoria Pipkin-Lane, CEO Workplace Programs, and Rebecca Ferrandino, L.A. Financial. At right, Lorraine Simpson, Westworks Credit Union, presents an opportunity gift to one lucky County employee.

Volunteer Fall Wrap-Up Meeting

Photos by Henry Salazar



Chief Executive Officer Bill Fujioka, above right, and Tony Bell, third from left, Assistant Chief Deputy to Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, commend Ken Kramer, volunteer coordinator for Animal Care & Control, at the Fall Wrap-up meeting/luncheon. Lending support are department volunteer coordinators, from left, Cynthia Moore-Oliver, Harbor-UCLA Medical Center, Pat Winieki, Public Library, and Esperanza Hernandez, Consumer Affairs.

Calendar of Events

Training for Departmental March of Dimes Coordinators

Wednesday, February 20, 2008
KHHOA

County Night at Dodger Stadium

Friday, April 11, 2008
7 p.m



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES 2008 MARCH OF DIMES CAMPAIGN



Stuck On You Giraffes
\$5.00



Hugs and Kisses Bear
\$5.00



I Love You Cube Bear
\$5.00



Wild Love Lion
\$5.00

Contact your Departmental 2008 March of Dimes Coordinator
or Elaine Elizalde, 2008 March of Dimes L.A. County Team Leader
Office of Workplace Programs

Phone: (213) 974-2466 • Email: eeelizalde@ceo.lacounty.gov

All proceeds benefit the 2008 March of Dimes Campaign



2008 March of Dimes - March for Babies



County of Los Angeles

"County Night at Dodger Stadium"

Dodgers vs. San Diego Padres

Friday, April 11, 2008 @ 7:00 p.m.

The Los Angeles Dodgers are inviting all County of Los Angeles
employees, their families and friends to Dodger Stadium!

A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the County of Los Angeles 2008 March of Dimes "March for Babies" campaign

SAVE THE DATE!



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Fourth District
Michael D. Antonovich
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